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in the bulletins before us, and containing descriptions of nearly 150 new species. There are also notes on the Gramineae by E. HACKEL, including descriptions of 2 new species; an account of the Scitamineae by HENRY N. RIDLEY, 8 new species being characterized; and 10 new species of Acanthaceae by C. B. CLARKE.—J. M. C.

**Aster.**—In 1902<sup>4</sup> E. S. BURGESS published a "History of Pre-Clusian Botany in its relation to Aster;" and now a second paper on Aster has appeared,<sup>5</sup> which deals with the "Biotian Asters." Under the head of variation, specific limits in the genus are discussed; also normal characters and the comparative variability of organs. There is no group of flowering plants in which such a discussion would seem more difficult. A systematic treatment of the species is also begun, 84 species being presented with great fullness, 58 of which are published for the first time; also 10 subspecies and about 250 subordinate forms are characterized.—J. M. C.

**Festuca.**—C. V. PIPER<sup>6</sup> has published a monograph of the North American species of Festuca, recognizing 34 species, and characterizing 3 of them as new. A third subgenus is added to Vulpia and Eufestuca, to include *F. confinis* Vasey, and is called *Hesperochloa*. There are also notes on several Mexican species including descriptions of 2 new species. A new word is added to the terminology of grasses. The word "glume" is restricted to the "empty glumes;" while the "lower palet" or "outer palet" or "flowering glume" of authors is the *lemma*, a Greek word meaning husk or scale.—J. M. C.

**Plants of the Bahamas.**—Dr. C. F. MILLSPAUGH, Field Columbian Museum, has issued the first paper<sup>7</sup> of a series dealing with the flora of the Bahamas, Amaranthaceae, Euphorbiaceae, Rubiaceae, and Verbenaceae are presented, and a new species of Solanum is described. New species are also described under Iresine (2), Argythamnia (2), Euphorbia (3), Chiococca, Lantana, Valerianodes, and Callicarpa; and two new genera (*Nashia* and *Pseudocarpidium*) of Verbenaceae are established.—J. M. C.

**Lichens of Santa Cruz.**—A. W. C. R. HERRE<sup>8</sup> has published an account of the foliaceous and fruticose lichens of the Santa Cruz peninsula, which is a natural biological region lying west of San Francisco Bay and extending south-

<sup>4</sup> Mem. Torr. Bot. Club, 10.

<sup>5</sup> BURGESS, EDWARD SANFORD, Species and variations of Biotian Asters, with discussion of variability in Aster. Mem. Torr. Bot. Club 13: 419. figs. 108. 1906.

<sup>6</sup> PIPER, CHARLES V., North American species of Festuca. Contrib. U. S. Nat. Herb. 10: 1-48. pls. 1-15. 1906.

<sup>7</sup> MILLSPAUGH, C. F., Praenunciae Bahamenses. I. Field Columb. Mus. Bot. 2: 137-184. 1906.

<sup>8</sup> HERRE, ALBERT W. C. T., The foliaceous and fruticose lichens of the Santa Cruz peninsula, California. Proc. Wash. Acad. Sci. 7: 325-396. 1906.